

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed October 3, 2007. Claims 1-13 and 15-18 remain pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and the presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

1. Response to Objections of Drawings

The drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for allegedly not showing all of the features/imitations cited in claim 16. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 16 recites a network interface layer, a data storage layer, a data conversion layer, and an aggregation layer. As described in the specification, Figure 1 shows a network interface layer 11, data conversion layer 12, an aggregation layer 13, and a data storage layer 14. See page 5, lines 8-10. Accordingly, each of the claimed features are shown in the drawings. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

2. Response to Objection of Abstract

The abstract has been objected to because it is allegedly not in narrative form and is not limited to a single paragraph. The abstract has been rewritten to be in narrative form and limited to a single paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

3. Response to Objection of Claims

Claim 18 has been objected to because claim 18 appears to be the same as claim 15. In response, claim 18 has been rewritten to depend from claim 16 and not claim 13. Therefore, claim 18 is not the same as claim 15, and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

4. Response to Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-13 and 15-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. In particular, claims 2, 13, and 16 have been objected to because of the usage of the term “may.” Claims 3 and 16 have been objected to because of the usage of the term “substantially.” Claims 5, 15, and 17-18 have been objected to because of the usage of the term “such as.” These terms that have been objected to by the Examiner have been removed from the language of claims 2, 3, 5, 13, and 15-18. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

5. Response to Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-13 and 15-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Trivedi* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0138563).

a. Claim 1

As provided in independent claim 1, Applicant claims:

In a communications environment, a system for managing user profile data, comprising:

- a) a network interface layer operatively associated with a communications network,
- b) an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream,**
- c) the data storage layer, operative to store user profile data relating to the communications network, and
- d) a data conversion layer, functionally disposed between the network interface and the data storage layers and which is capable of converting the user profile data into a plurality of communications network formats.

(Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is allowable for at least the reason that *Trivedi* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user

profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream,” as emphasized above.

Rather, *Trivedi* describes a system that interconnects a group of user devices 120 and an operation support system (OSS) 130. The OSS may include a voice portal unit 350. The voice portal unit may make use of an XPM server 610 which receives user profile information from a network interface of the OSS via an XPM connector to the XPM server. The XPM connector allows other OSS components to access the XPM database 615. The connector transforms the information it receives to a format that is compatible with the XPM database 615. Accordingly, the connector 532 may include a transformer 1020. This information is stored in the XPM database 615. The connector 532 may also publish the information to other related channels.

For example, *Trivedi* states:

The channel source 1010 represents input data associated with user-entered event information. For example, when a user accesses the OSS 130 to perform some transaction, e.g., update a user profile, the process management system 310 receives the data via the network interface 320 and processes the data. In an exemplary implementation consistent with the present invention, the central engine 550 (FIG. 5) publishes an event on a channel, such as the channel corresponding to the channel source 1010. The transformer 1020 subscribes to the channel associated with the channel source 1010 and receives the event information.

The transformer 1020 may then identify the particular type of event received from the channel source 1010. For example, transformer 1020 determines what product or service that the event is associated with and whether the event is associated with a user modifying his/her profile associated with that particular service/product. The transformer 1020 may then determine how to format the data associated with the received event. The transformer 1020 may also invoke an XPM client process 1030 to connect to the XPM server 610. The XPM client 1030 may then transmit the re-formatted event information to the XPM server 610.

In accordance with an exemplary implementation of the invention, the transformer 1020 may also send the data to various channel targets 1040 subscribed to by other modules/external systems. For example, according to an exemplary implementation of the present invention, the transformer 1030 may forward event information to a channel subscribed to by connectors associated with the ODS 332 and the billing unit 337, represented by channel target 1040. It should be understood that in other

implementations of the invention, the XPM connector 532 may forward event information to channels associated with other modules/externals systems, based on the particular system requirements.

Paras. 0075-0077 (Emphasis added). Accordingly, *Trivedi* discloses that information entered by a user is used to update a user profile. *Trivedi* does not disclose that user profile data is extracted from network data traffic comprising a signaling protocol data stream, however. For at least this reason, *Trivedi* fails to teach or suggest at least “an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream,” as recited in claim 1.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is not anticipated by *Trivedi*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

b. Claims 2-12

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art of record for at least the reasons given above. Since claims 2-12 depend from claim 1 and recite additional features, claims 2-12 are allowable as a matter of law over the cited art of record.

c. Claim 13

As provided in independent claim 13, Applicant claims:

In a communications environment, a system for managing user profile data, comprising:

a) a network interface layer operatively associated with a plurality of different communications networks,

b) an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream, and

c) a data storage layer, operative to store user profile data relating to the communications networks, and

d) a data conversion layer, functionally disposed between the network interface and data storage layers and which is capable of effecting a conversion between a plurality of communications network formats and a user profile format, whereby a plurality of communications networks have access to the data storage layer, thus enabling services to

be provided using such networks that are tailored in accordance with the user profile data.

(Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 is allowable for at least the reason that *Trivedi* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream,” as emphasized above.

Rather, *Trivedi* describes a system that interconnects a group of user devices 120 and an operation support system (OSS) 130. The OSS may include a voice portal unit 350. The voice portal unit may make use of an XPM server 610 which receives user profile information from a network interface of the OSS via an XPM connector to the XPM server. The XPM connector allows other OSS components to access the XPM database 615. The connector transforms the information it receives to a format that is compatible with the XPM database 615. Accordingly, the connector 532 may include a transformer 1020. This information is stored in the XPM database 615. The connector 532 may also publish the information to other related channels.

As previously mentioned, *Trivedi* discloses that information entered by a user is used to update a user profile. *Trivedi* does not disclose that user profile data is extracted from network data traffic comprising a signaling protocol data stream, however. For at least this reason, *Trivedi* fails to teach or suggest at least “an aggregation layer operative to extract from network data traffic user profile data and provide the user profile data to a data storage layer, wherein the network data traffic comprises at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream,” as recited in claim 13.

For at least these reasons, claim 13 is not anticipated by *Trivedi*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

d. Claim 15

Claim 13 is allowable over the cited art of record for at least the reasons given above. Since claim 15 depends from claim 13 and recites additional features, claim 15 is allowable as a matter of law over the cited art of record.

e. Claim 16

As provided in independent claim 16, Applicant claims:

In a communications environment, a system for managing user profile data, comprising:

- a) a network interface layer operatively associated with a communications network and comprising a user access module receptive to information transmitted using a web-based protocol and operative to receive information from a user or subscriber and to effect or request a change, where appropriate, in the user profile data contained within the data storage layer;
- b) a data storage layer, operative to store user profile data, provided in a single tagged or tag-based format, relating to the communications network;
- c) a data conversion layer, functionally disposed between the network interface and the data storage layers and which is capable of converting the user profile data into a plurality of communications network formats; and
- d) *an aggregation layer having a push/pull relationship with the data conversion and data storage layers and operative to convene user profile data relating to a plurality of different communications networks from network data traffic comprising at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream, the aggregation layer comprising a data store selector operative to effect storage of user profile data in appropriate sectors of the data storage layer,*

wherein the data conversion layer is capable of making bi-directional contact with the network interface layer whereby a plurality of communications network data formats are converted into a user profile data format compatible with the data storage layer and the data storage layer comprises a rules repository accessible by the aggregation layer, the rules contained within the repository influencing the operation of the aggregation layer

(Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 16 is allowable for at least the reason that *Trivedi* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “an aggregation layer having a push/pull relationship with the data conversion and data storage layers and operative to convene user profile data relating to a plurality of different communications networks from network data traffic comprising at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream, the aggregation layer comprising a data store selector

operative to effect storage of user profile data in appropriate sectors of the data storage layer,” as emphasized above.

Rather, *Trivedi* describes a system that interconnects a group of user devices 120 and an operation support system (OSS) 130. The OSS may include a voice portal unit 350. The voice portal unit may make use of an XPM server 610 which receives user profile information from a network interface of the OSS via an XPM connector to the XPM server. The XPM connector allows other OSS components to access the XPM database 615. The connector transforms the information it receives to a format that is compatible with the XPM database 615. Accordingly, the connector 532 may include a transformer 1020. This information is stored in the XPM database 615. The connector 532 may also publish the information to other related channels.

As previously mentioned, *Trivedi* discloses that information entered by a user is used to update a user profile. *Trivedi* does not disclose that user profile data is extracted from network data traffic comprising a signaling protocol data stream, however. For at least this reason, *Trivedi* fails to teach or suggest at least “an aggregation layer having a push/pull relationship with the data conversion and data storage layers and operative to convene user profile data relating to a plurality of different communications networks from network data traffic comprising at least a signaling protocol data traffic stream, the aggregation layer comprising a data store selector operative to effect storage of user profile data in appropriate sectors of the data storage layer,” as recited in claim 16.

For at least these reasons, claim 16 is not anticipated by *Trivedi*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

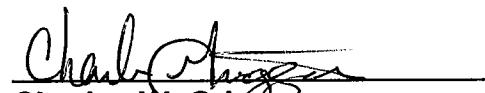
f. Claims 17-18

Claim 16 is allowable over the cited art of record for at least the reasons given above. Since claims 17-18 depend from claim 16 and recite additional features, claims 17-18 are allowable as a matter of law over the cited art of record.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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